

and gave them the privilege of cutting from his lands in Anne Arundel county, devised to his four unmarried daughters, "so much wood and timber as might be necessary for the support of the lands" devised to his said widow and son.

The lands out of which this privilege was granted were afterwards sold under a decree of this court, with the understanding that the widow and son of the testator, should receive out of the proceeds of sale, so much in lieu of said privilege as the Chancellor might deem right; and certain persons having been appointed to value the same, they reported, that the widow was entitled to receive \$150 and the son \$500.

At this stage of the proceedings a petition was filed by Crouch and Lazenby, who had intermarried with two of the parties entitled to a share of the proceeds of the land sold, and who were also the purchasers thereof, objecting to the ratification of this report, on the ground, that Walter Smith had, after the sale of the property, removed from the premises a quantity of wood and rail stuff which had been previously cut down by him; and praying, in the event of the sale being ratified, that the value of the wood and timber so cut, might be deducted from the proportions of the valuation to be paid by the petitioners to said Smith.

The right of Walter Smith to exercise the privilege granted him by his father's will, had never been called in question by the previous proceedings, nor was any notice given by this petition of an attempt to resist it; but at the hearing, the counsel for the petitioners contended that the testator, by a codicil to his will, had revoked the privilege, and that said Walter was not entitled to any allowance in lieu thereof.

The matter of this petition having been argued by counsel, the Chancellor at this term, after stating the case, delivered his opinion, as follows :]

THE CHANCELLOR :

It appears by the evidence, that the wood and rails which had been thus removed by Smith, amounting probably to some sixty or eighty dollars in value, were cut by him prior to the